Remarks

Applicants submit new claims for this continued prosecution. Each independent claim has the limitation of forming substantially the same electric field contours in the substrate below the field plates. No reference cited against the invention shows or suggests forming the same electric fields below each field plate. The invention achieves this result by varying the voltage applied to the field plates. The result may be further improved or modified by varying the width of each filed plate and the distance between field plates to achieve the desired uniformity of electric field contours. One feature of the invention is that the field plate proximate the edge of the die has the largest bias voltage and the bias voltages on the inner field plates step down as one moved toward the central, active area of the device.

Respectfully submitted,

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